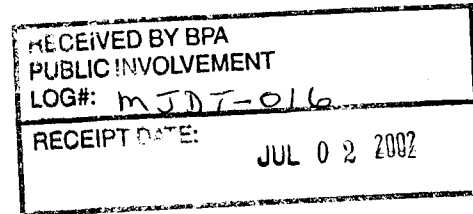


5 Comment Letters

June 17, 2002

Stacy Mason
Bonneville Power Administration KEC-4
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208



RE: McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Mason:

Thank you for speaking with me about the McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project. I appreciate the opportunity to discuss the fate of my great-grandparents ranch, the Fuhrman Ranch on Highway 14. I understand you are in the final stages of selecting among three alternatives for the placement of a new power transmission line that would run for 79 miles. Two of those alternatives would require the removal of some or all of the buildings on the Fuhrman Ranch.

I am concerned that the historical value of this property was not evaluated during the EIS. The house dates from the 19th century and the barn and garage are over 50 years old. I appreciate your offer to have the consultants go back out to update this part of the EIS. The Burke Museum also holds the archeological records for sites not on the state register that came from the fieldwork done in the late 1960's when the John Day Dam was built.

I appreciate the need for more power but am concerned about the plan to divert the power lines across the road for two miles right through our Ranch. Bonneville Power already has the right way across the highway for the existing power transmission lines and I would urge you to use the existing right of way and avoid the demolition of our family Ranch.

I know the consultant will be able to evaluate the public historical value of the ranch and buildings, however I want to share with you the living tie my family has with this Ranch. Some of my earliest memories are going to visit my great-grandmother Blanche Fuhrman when she still lived at the Ranch in the late 1960's and early 1970's. My great-grandfather James Fuhrman had died before I was born and she lived out at the Ranch alone for 25 years. She kept a gun behind the kitchen door to deal with rattlesnakes and other pesky creatures. She was a prolific gardener and baker. I would drive up with my grandparents and go in the gate past all of the roses and hollyhocks and she would always come out to greet me. My great-grandmother was a big lady. She kept a mirror on the wall in the kitchen and when folks would drive up

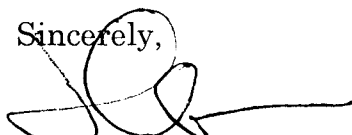
My grandmother died in April of this year. I just spent a weekend at the ranch to celebrate her life and to go to the Alder Creek Pioneer Association's annual picnic and rodeo. My grandmother was honored there at the memorial program. She was born in 1911 in the hills above the Ranch and spent her whole life in this area.

The thought that the Ranch will be torn down and one of the last connections I have to the generations who have gone before is very difficult for me to face.

I would like to have the opportunity to meet you at the Ranch and share some of the family history with you. I have many cousins, aunts, uncles and other relatives who would like to join in this effort. Monday July 8th or Friday July 12th or Monday July 15th would all work for us. Come see the walls, hear the stories and meet the people your decision will impact. Please weigh in the historical and emotional value of this property in your decision-making. Too many family homesteads have been torn down and lost that can never be replaced.

I appreciate your considering my request and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Jay Osborne
PO Box 4678
Seattle, WA 98104

cc: Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell
Congressman Doc Hastings
State Senator Jim Honeyford
Representatives Bruce Chandler and Barb Lisk
Klickitat County Commissioners Don Struck, Joan Frey and Ray Thayer

